

Welcome Message from Russell Dean, Town Manager



Welcome to Exeter!

Exeter is a wonderful community. We are located in the New Hampshire seacoast area, just a few miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The Town is a mix of different ages, with many families and the elderly all calling Exeter home.

Exeter is proud of its history, after all the Town has been around since well before the American Revolution! The Great Dam, located in the downtown, was once the heartbeat of the community, and is still one of the most photographed areas of Exeter. The Exeter River empties into the Squamscott close to this point. In the 1600's, the Town was built around the first dams, sawmills, and grist mills put up by settlers. During this period and before, Native Americans relied on alewives for food around the shores of the Exeter and Squamscott.

The face of Exeter has evolved over hundreds of years. The old mill buildings are now reborn as market rate apartments. Phillips Exeter Academy (PEA) maintains as strong a presence as ever in Exeter as one of the country's premier private educational institutions. The new Exeter High School, located at 1 Blue Hawk Drive, was completed in 2005 and serves six area towns for education.

A quick walk around our downtown will be sure to please, with its combination of unique eating places, the legendary IOKA theater, old Town Hall, and Swasey Parkway all part of the landscape. In addition you'll find history around every corner, including the route Abraham Lincoln took when he spoke at the Town Hall in 1860. The iconic bandstand located in the center of downtown was a gift from Ambrose Swasey back in 1916. It still stands today. The American Independence Museum, Folsom Tavern, and Ladd Gilman house all offer a unique view of Exeter history including some of the most iconic documents of America's history.

Exeter has a very active presence of families, each weekend you'll find activities going on at the Recreation Park, such as youth soccer. The rinks located on Industrial Drive is the home to the Exeter Blue Hawk hockey team and many tournaments throughout the year. The Town's Parks and Recreation Department runs a variety of programs and events that help promote Exeter as a great place to raise children and have a family.

Exeter also has a full time police department, which operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Our Fire Department, also full time, provides EMS services to the paramedic level (ALS). The Town's public library, located at Founders Park, is open seven days per week for most of the year for all to enjoy.

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All in all, Exeter is a pretty great place to live. Come and see us, we think you will agree.

Russell Dean, Town Manager

The Town Manager in Exeter

The Town Manager is appointed by the Town's governing body, the Board of Selectmen. The Town Manager serves in accordance with RSA 37, the "Town Manager Plan" as the Town's chief administrative officer. The Town Manager supervises all town departments with the exception of the Exeter Public Library.

The Town Manager prepares the annual budget for review and recommendation by the Board of Selectmen to the Town under RSA 40:13. Other specific duties and authorities of the Town Manager are found in NH RSA 37:5 and RSA 37:6.

Exeter adopted the Town Manager plan on or about 1956. The first Town Manager was Allen Marks.

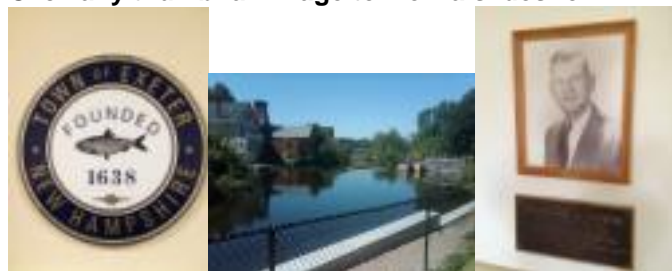
Former Town Manager Ted Nowak passed away unexpectedly in 1967 while in office. The Nowak Room at the current Town Office located at 10 Front Street is named in his honor.

About Town Manager Russell Dean

Russell Dean has a B.A. from Arizona State University and a Master's of Public Administration from the University of New Hampshire. He is a member of the International City Managers' Association (ICMA) and also a member of the Municipal Manager's Association of New Hampshire (MMANH), where he is serving as past president.

Russell Dean is also a graduate of Exeter High School. Mr. Dean lives in Exeter with his family.

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Web Links

[RSA 37](#)[International City/County Management Association](#)[NH Local Government Center](#)[NH Center for Public Policy Studies](#)[National League of Cities](#) [Municipal Management Association of New Hampshire](#)

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